pay special attention for regularising these employees .

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria): Sir, I hail from Araria which lies in the north of Bihar. We cultivate jute on large scale in Araria, Saharasa, Purnia and Madhepura districts. The rate of jute last year was Rs. 500 to 800 per quintal, but this year, it is only Rs. 300 to 400 per quintal. When I discussed the matter with the honorable Minister, he told me that a J.C.I. purchase centre was opened, but when I rang up there, it was found that it was not opened yet. I urge the Government to open this centre and raise the jute price to Rs. 800 to 1000 per quintal.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (Mirzapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, till today I used to speak in the House on the basis my physical valour. Today, I wish to thank your gracious self for giving me an opportunity to speak in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it an intellectual arena?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH : Intellect resides only in a healthy body. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw Government's attention to Kanodia Chemical factory in Sonbhadra of Mirzapur, which releases effluence in the nearby Rihand Dam, the water of which is supplied to 5-6 lakh population living there which have a deleterious affect on their health. Though the matter was taken up with the Government, but no action has so far been taken to check this pollution. I urge upon the Government through you to check the release of affluence of Kanodia Chemicals into Rihand Dam.

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN (Calicut) : Sir, I would like to raise the matter regarding the working hours of Central Schools. All Central Government offices are working five days a week but Central Schools are working six days a week. It is requested that the five-day week be introduced in Central Schools also, and medium of instruction for Social Studies, which is Hindi, should be changed to English for the sake of students convenience.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA (Tonk) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to the Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur broad gauge line which is being constructed in district headquarters of Tonk (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have done many times, today, you allow others to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA : This line should be linked to Tonk. I want to draw your attention that the Britishers gave two provinces to settle Pindri dacoits. One of them was Tonk and Second was Bhopal. Sir, even after 44 years of India's independence, many tribals in Tonk have not even seen the train yet. My area has much potential for industrial development if the railway facilities are extended there. But in the absence of railway facilities there, problems of poverty, unemployment and backwardness are becoming more acute day by day. The survey work for linking Tonk district headquarters by railway line was completed long ago. In 1957, the then Railway Minister, Babu Jagjivan Ram had given an assurance in a public meeting that Tonk would be linked by a railway line, but till today, Government did not pay any attention to implement that assurance. The people of Tonk should not be deprived of railway facility on the pretext of economic crisis. I urge upon the Railway Minister through you to link Tonk city headquarters to the Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur. Provision should be made in the present budget for this purpose. Its survey has already been completed. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW (Idukki) : Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the miserable condition of the Indian students in

Soviet Union as a result of the recent tremendous changes that have taken place there. There are about 4000 Indian students scattered all over in the different republics. Now, the different republics are asking the Indian students to pay their fees in hard currency. The stipend of 100 roubles per month given to the Indian students has also been stopped and they are asking them to pay the fees in hard currency. Under the present circumstances, these students are not in a position to pay their fees in hard currency.

Another problem is that they are being denied admission in various colleges and other educational institutions there. If they are asked to pack up and come back to India, then they will find it difficult to get admission in this country as there is difference in the systems of education here and there. If they will be thrown out, they will be totally ruined because they will not get admission here which is equivalent to their education and classes in the Soviet Union.

So, the two problems which the Indian students are facing in Soviet Union are admission and payment of fees in hard currency. Some for us are being flooded with letters and telephone fcalls from these students and their parents. There are about 4000 Indian students in the Soviet Union. The Embassy here is getting SOS calls from the students as well as their parents. So, this is an urgent matter which the Government of India, especially the External Affairs Minister, should take care of. I request through you, the hon. External Affairs Minister to pay immediate attention to this matter. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secundrabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Vishwa Karma is considered a symbol of artisans of the country. He is considered responsible for several tools and equipments for the use of small rural artisans. All the artisans of India such as cobblers, pot makers, goldsmith, blacksmith, carpenters etc. worship Vishwa-karma as god. Our village folk specially rural artisans mostly depend on tools developed by Vishwakarma. Vishwakarma Jayanti is falling on 17 September. I would request the Central Government to celebrate this day as "National Labour Day". Till today, we have been celebrating this day as "May Day" as Worker's Day, but it has almost lost its significance in present context. Now it seems proper to celebrate Vishwa karma Jayanti as "National Labour Day" I hope Government would soon announce '17th September' as 'Vishwakarma Day'. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: It is known to the House and to you, Sir, that there is a very serious flood situation in North Bengal.

MR. SPEAKER : We have decided not to allow senior Members to speak. Don't you like to be considered as one of the senior Members ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: By remaining present here yesterday till midnight and early hours of the day, I prove myself to be a back bencher. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, today you have earned time to speak. Now come on.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In north Bengal, the intensity of flood is very serious. This is evident from the fact that 17 persons have already lost their lives. (*Interruptions*) It seems now the figure has gone to 42. You have not permitted me to read today's newspaper. So, I do not know the latest figure.

Sir, it is necessary that urgent relief is given to Bengal. A central Team also should visit the area and in association with the State Government try to mitigate the situation. There has already been a very swift response from the hon. Prime Minister. He has already granted some amount from his Relief Fund. Unfortunately, there is one matter of propriety that has escaped his